Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00368 221720Z

47
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
---------- 102474
O 221706Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5955
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 0368

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, EG, JO, SY
SUBJECT: LEBANON AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

REF: STATE 16199, DAMASCUS 365, DAMASCUS 366, DAMASCUS 367

1. CONSIDER FACT ENCOURAGING THAT KHADDAM, SHIHABI AND JAMIL ARE STILL IN BEIRUT. NOTE OF OPTIMISM AND RELIEF REPORTED EARLIER TODAY (DAMASCUS 366) IN PRESS AND PRIVATE OFFICIAL COMMENT SEEMS TO BE SPREADING IN DAMASCUS IN WAKE OF STATEMENT FROM LEBANESE PRESIDENCY THAT FRANJIEH HAS AGREED TO SYRIAN PROPOSALS.

2. I AM ATTRACTED BY INTERPRETATION THAT ENTRY OF PLA FORCES INTO LEBANON IN RECENT DAYS REPRESENTED BASICALLY PART OF SARG'S POLITICAL PRESSURE ON GOL TO BRING EXTREMIST MARONITES TO HEEL (DAMASCUS 330). IF TRUE, THIS MEANS ASAD IS PLAYING ROUGH WITH GOL -- NOT TO MENTION RAISING RISK OF ISRAELI REACTION -- BUT HIS PATIENCE UNDERSTANDABLY RUNNING THIN IN LIGHT LEBANESE DELAYING TACTICS OVER SYRIA'S PROPOSALS.

3. IT NOT YET CLEAR WHAT NATURE OF SYRIAN INVOLVE-MENT WILL BE IN SUPREME MILITARY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED IN BEIRUT TO OVERSEE CEASE-FIRE AND AFTERMATH. OUR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 DAMASC 00368 221720Z

ESTIMATE WOULD BE THAT SOME PROLONGED SYRIAN PRESENCE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

IN COMMITTEE (AND PERHAPS EVEN ON ITS IMPLEMENTING BODIES) WILL BE NECESSARY TO KEEP MECHANISM TOGETHER. THIS SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS SYRIAN "INTERVENTION", BUT AS ARISING FROM NECESSITY OF THE SITUATION.

4. KHADDAM'S STATEMENT TO ATHERTON STRIKES ME AS RHETORIC BUT IN ANY CASE THERE NO POSSIBILITY THAT SYRIANS WILL THROW UP THEIR HANDS AND REFUSE TO TRY AGAIN IF THIS EFFORT DOES NOT TAKE. THEIR INTERESTS SIMPLY ARE TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED. ALSO, THEIR OPPOSITION TO ANYONE ELSE GETTING INTO THE MEDIATION ACT WAS REITERATED TO ME ONLY TODAY BY ASAD'S POLITICAL ADVISOR (DAMASCUS 367).
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, ARBITRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC00368
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760024-0837
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760132/aaaabcea.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 16199, 76 DAMASCUS 365, 76 DAMASCUS 366, 76 DAMASCUS 367
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEBANON AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG, JO, SY, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006